SIGNAL WORDS*

1. Continuation Signals (*Warning-there are more ideas to come.*)

and, also, another
again, and finally, in addition
a final reason, furthermore, more
last of all, likewise, one reason
moreover, next, similarly
other, secondly, too
also, with

2. Change-of-Direction Signals (*Watch out-we’re doubling back.*)

although, but, conversely
despite, different from, even though
however, in contrast, instead of
in spite of, nevertheless, otherwise
the opposite, on the contrary, on the other hand
rather, still, yet
while, though

3. Sequence Signals (*There is an order to these ideas.*)

first, second, third, A, B, C
in the first place, for one thing
then, next
before, now
after, while
into (far into the night), until
during
last, always
since, on time
o’clock, earlier

4. Time Signals (*When is it happening?)

when, immediately
lately, already
at the same time, final
once, during
now, little by little

5. Illustration Signals (*Here’s what that principle means in reality.*)

for example, specifically
for instance, to illustrate
such as  much like
in the same way as  similar to

**6. Emphasis Signals (This is important.)**

a major development  it all boils down to
a significant factor  most of all
a primary concern  most noteworthy
a key feature  more than anything else
a major event  of course
a vital force  pay particular attention to
a central issue  remember that
a distinctive quality  should be noted
above all  the most substantial issue
by the way  the main value
especially important  the basic concept
especially relevant  the crux of the matter
especially valuable  the chief outcome
important to note  the principal item

**7. Cause, Condition, or Result Signals (Condition or modification is coming up.)**

because  if  of
for  from  so
while  then  but
that  until  since
as  whether  in order that
so that  therefore  unless
yet  thus  due to
resulting from  consequently  without

**8. Spatial Signals (This answers the "where" question.)**

between  below  about  left  alongside
here  outside  around  close to  far
right  over  away  side  near
near  in  into  beside
middle  next to  beyond  north
east  on  opposite  over
south  there  inside  in front of
under  these  out  behind
across  this  adjacent  above
toward  west  by  upon

**9. Comparison-Contrast Signals (We will now compare idea A with idea B.)**

and  or  also
too  best  most
either  less  less than
to more than  same  better
even  then  half
much as  like  analogous to
but  different from  still
10. Conclusion Signals (*This ends the discussion and may have special importance.*)

- as a result
- from this we see
- hence
- consequently
- in conclusion
- last of all
- finally
- in summary
- therefore

11. Fuzz Signals (*Idea is not exact, or author is not positive and wishes to qualify a statement.*)

- almost
- maybe
- except
- nearly
- seems like
- sort of
- if
- could
- should
- might
- was reported
- probably
- looks like
- some
- alleged
- reputed
- looks like
- some
- alleged
- reputed

12. Nonword Emphasis Signals

- exclamation point (!)
- underline
- italics
- **bold type**
- subheads, like *The Conclusion*
- indentation of paragraph
- graphic illustrations
- numbered points (1, 2, 3)
- very short sentence: *Stop war.*
- "quotation marks"

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